Opening of Bank branches in Pakistan

2159. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government/Reserve Bank of India propose to grant permission to public sector banks to open their branches in important cities of Pakistan in view of improvement in bilateral relations between the two countries; and

(b) if so, the names of the banks selected for the purpose and the cities in Pakistan where the branches would be opened and by when they are likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Reserve Bank of India has reported that it has not received any application from Public Sector Banks for opening branches in Pakistan. Banks are generally guided by commercial considerations and future business potential as perceived by them, while sending proposals for their overseas expansion. While giving the approval for opening offices, RBI/Government of India desires that only banks, which have capacity to survive in a competitive global market are allowed presence abroad.

(b) Does not arise.

Cash Management System

2160. SHRI SUDARSHAN AKARAPU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce Cash Management System in some high spending Ministries/Departments on pilot basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) which are the Ministries/Departments identified under the scheme/project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) Government have introduced Cash Management System in nine Departments *viz.* (i) Agriculture and Co-operation, (ii) Fertilizers, (iii) Food and Public Distribution, (iv) Health, (v) Family Welfare, (vi) Elementary Education and Literacy, (vii) Secondary Education and Higher Education, (viii) Women and Child Development